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# CL 610 Theology of Servant Leadership

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*So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." Mark 10.42-45*

**CL610: THEOLOGY OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP**  
**Three Hours Credit**  
**J-Term 08 Meeting at Bethel Agricultural Fellowship**  
**In South India**  
**Class Limited To Pre-Registered Students Only**

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**WELCOME**

Welcome to CL610 "Theology of Servant Leadership" J-Term 08. In that we are meeting half way around the world from the United States, and in that our class will actually be going to practice ***Servant Leadership***, our time together should prove to be one of the more unique and formative experiences of your entire seminary experience. It will certainly be different from other classes you have taken!

In this unique CL610 class I want you to dig into the foundational readings, serve together as team, have an amazing cross-cultural servant leadership experience, and then integrate it all into a final integrative reflection paper.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

With the end in view of living as a Christian servant leader, students in CL610 J-Term 08 will enter into a highly unique situation for a seminary class:

1. Students will first go through the process of preparing for an overseas, third world trip (securing passport & Indian Visa permit; receiving necessary vaccinations; and raising the funds necessary for travel and tuition).
2. Before departing for India, students will be formed into various ministry teams. Each team will be expected to coordinate with one another (as much as possible) in order to plan their areas of service at Bethel Agricultural Fellowship.
3. Before departing for India, students will view the DVD provided to them by the professor and they will read *The Art of Crossing Culture* by Craig Storti as well as all other printed material handed to them by the professor.
4. Each student will be expected to bring one suitcase to India for their own personal needs and then one suitcase filled with group project materials and/or medical equipment.
5. While in India, learning and spiritual growth will take place through team meetings; through times of service to the Bethel community; through one on one relationships with those whom we are going to serve; through interviews with Indian Christian leaders, and through corporate times of worship.
6. After returning from India, students will then compose a final integrative reflection paper in which they articulate their biblical, theological, and experiential understanding of ***Servant Leadership***.

## COMPETENCIES TO BE DEVELOPED BY THE STUDENT

Specific Goals for CL610:

1. Acquire a deep appreciation for and understanding of cross-cultural ministry as well as a respectful and appropriate social presence among the Indian population that we will serve.
2. Develop a Biblically based, Wesleyan theological understanding of *Servant Leadership*.
3. Demonstrate discernment as to the various leadership styles and practices at play in the church today and how these styles can be evaluated by biblical and theological understandings of servant leadership.

4. Grow in the actual experience of participating in a team-based servant leadership small group in which leadership is shared, encouragement given, accountability experienced, and grace is extended to all.
5. Demonstrate an understanding and practice of shared power and mutual submission.
6. Cognitively understand and experientially incarnate the Biblical understanding that union precedes kenosis.
7. Understand key dynamics of shadow side leadership abuse and collapse.

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Foster, Richard. *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*. San Francisco, Harper & Row, 1978. (184 pages)  
[Note: please pay particular attention to chapters 8 “submission” and 9 “service”]

Greenleaf, Robert. *The Power of Servant Leadership*. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 1998. (313 pages)  
[Especially note these pages: Introduction, pp 1-15; Ch. 1, pp. 17-59; Ch. 5, pp. 111-167. **You do not need to read the rest of this text**]

Miller, Calvin. *The Empowered Leader: 10 Keys to Servant Leadership*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995. (227 pages) [Please pay particular attention to chapters 7, “The Politics of Grace and the Abuse of Power,” and 8, “Leadership: Coping with Difficult People”]

Nouwen, Henri J.M. *In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership*. New York: Crossroad, 1989. (81 pages)

Seamands, Steve. *Ministry In The Image Of God: The Trinitarian Shape Of Christian Service*. Downers Grove: IVP Books, 2005. (189 pages)

Storti, Craig. *The Art of Crossing Cultures (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*. Boston: Nicholas Brealey Publishing, 2001. (153 pages)

Stott, John. *Basic Christian Leadership: Biblical Models of Church, Gospel and Ministry*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002. (127 pages)

The Arbinger Institute. *Leadership and Self-Deception: Getting out of the Box*. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2000. (180 pages)

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

In that CL610 J-Term 06 is a unique travel class to India, the entire nature of the class—including assignments—will be somewhat different from normal “on-campus” classes.

### **Before Departure:**

#### ☐ Immunizations

Please complete all required immunizations and shots two weeks prior to departure. You will receive pills for malaria when we take off from JFK or when we all meet in London Heathrow.

#### ☐ Readings

Please read *The Art of Crossing Cultures* by Craig Storti. This is a very readable little text that will help give you a handle on cross-cultural ministry.

As time allows after the fall semester concludes and before we take off on December 30, please read all that you are able to of the other required texts. Yes! I will count on you reading the required texts! If not before we depart then after we return home in January.

#### ☐ DVD

Please carefully view and then review the DVD that you received in the mail. Pay close attention to the issues of specific cultural

differences that will be very important for us to live by while we are serving at Bethel.

## ☐ PACKING

Pay special attention to the lists that are included in the packet containing your DVD. One of those items will be a packing list. You need to know that there will be no corner stores to run down to once we are in Bethel. If you are going to need something there you will have to pack it with you.

Also, please plan on taking along a large empty suitcase in which we will pack either medical supplies or group project supplies for the children.

## ☐ Teams

Everyone must coordinate with their teams ahead of time as to who is doing what and who is responsible for differing elements. Team coordination must also include working closely together to bring over and pack ahead of time necessary supplies. This entire course will center on *Servant Leadership* in the context of team ministry. Love your team. Pray for your team. Serve well with your team.

## **While In India**

While in India I will count on you always staying together with another person and NEVER going out alone. I will count on you not drinking anything but purified water and not eating anything other than what has been well cooked or that you can peel yourself. Never eat salads or drink anything other than bottled water or water that has been boiled.

During our stay at Bethel Agricultural Fellowship I will count on you to:

- ☐ Show up every morning for chapel (6:30 am).
- ☐ Participate in the morning team meeting (7:00 am)

- ☐ Fully contribute with a servant's heart to the ministry at hand
- ☐ Be joyful in all things
- ☐ Carefully observe cultural rules discussed on the DVD
- ☐ **NEVER** complain about the food at Bethel (I think you will actually find it to be outstanding)
- ☐ Let Dr. Keith Alexander or myself know if you are ill
- ☐ Take one malaria pill everyday
- ☐ Keep your Passport safe at all times (please note: if you lose your passport you will have to stay behind at your own expense until you can procure a new one from the American Embassy)

### **Post Trip**

Upon returning from India please the following two assignments:

- ☐ Reading Report  
Please hand in to me by January 25, 2008 the **Reading Report** found at the end of this syllabus.
- ☐ Integration Paper

Please compose a 10-page integrative reflection paper in which you reflect upon the impact of the readings for the course as intersecting with your actual experience of serving in India.

This integrative, reflection paper shall be written in first person and shall adhere to guidelines as found in *Form and Style (12th Ed.)* by Carol Slade, Wilmington, MA. Houghton Mifflin Trade. Please use 12-point font and 1 inch margins all around. This paper should be 10 pages in length.

Please include in your integration paper these subheadings:

- Biblical and Theological Foundations of Christian Servant Leadership (this should be a substantial section)
- What I Learned About My Own Life While Serving In India (Share from your heart about what the Holy Spirit showed you while you were in India or while you were preparing for

the trip. Make sure that your personal sharing has significant interaction with the assigned texts.)

- How the Lord is Seeking to Stretch Me As A Servant Leader (Be specific about what you sense the Lord is saying to you as to areas where you need to experience specific reformation and/or transformation.)
- How I Am Being Called to Apply Servant Leadership to My Anticipated Ministry Future (Apply your major insights to that place in the future where you anticipate the Lord placing you.)

The Integration Paper is Due on or before Friday, January 27, 2006.

## **ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES**

Read *The Art of Crossing Cultures* and *A Feast For the Soul* before Tuesday, January 1, 2008.

Read as much of the other assigned texts before Tuesday, January 1; and then complete assigned texts after returning from India. (You will have quite a bit of plane time if you are able to read on an airplane)

Reading report due on or before Friday, January 25, 2008.

Integration paper due on or before Friday, January 25, 2008.



## **GRADES**

Grading is based upon the criteria found in the current ATS catalog.  
Grade increments (+/-) fall within the standards below.

A = Exceptional work: surpassing, markedly outstanding achievement of course objectives.

B = Good work: strong, significant achievement of course objectives.

C = Acceptable work: basic, essential achievement of course objectives.

D = Marginal work: inadequate, minimal achievement of course objectives.

F = Unacceptable work: failure to achieve course objectives.

**Grading in CL610 will be based on a simple 100-point scale.**

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Team Participation: | 30 points |
| Reading Report:     | 30 points |
| Integration Paper   | 40 points |

## READING REPORT

I read the following % of these assigned texts:

Foster, Richard. *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*. (184 pages) [Note: please pay particular attention to chapters 8 "submission" and 9 "service"]  
***I read the following.....%***

Greenleaf, Robert. *The Power of Servant Leadership*. (313 pages)  
 [These pages required: Introduction, pp 1-15; Ch. 1, pp. 17-59; Ch. 5, pp. 111-167]  
***I read the following.....%***

Miller, Calvin. *The Empowered Leader: 10 Keys to Servant Leadership*. (227 pages) [Please pay particular attention to chapters 7, "The Politics of Grace and the Abuse of Power," and 8, "Leadership: Coping with Difficult People"]  
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Seamands, Steve. *Ministry In The Image Of God: The Trinitarian Shape Of Christian Service*. (189 pages)  
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***I read the following.....%***

The Arbinger Institute. *Leadership and Self-Deception: Getting out of the Box*. (180 pages)  
***I read the following.....%***

**PLEASE PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Signature: \_\_\_\_\_**